



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD, SUITE 5
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6005

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCVS-FA

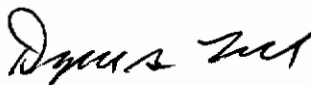
24 March 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Food Risk Evaluation Committee (FREC), 10 February 2004

1. We enclose the minutes of the Food Risk Evaluation Committee (FREC) meeting of 10 February 2004 for your information and records.
2. Our point of contact is Mr. Robert Kilburn, DOD Approved Sources Division, DSN 471-6547.

Encl
as


DEWAYNE G. TAYLOR
Colonel, VC
Chairman, Food Risk Evaluation Committee

DISTRIBUTION:

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COL Hoskins (MCCS HV), U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, 2250 Stanley
Road, Suite 270, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6145
COL Kelsey (MCVS), U.S. Army Veterinary Command, 2050 Worth Road, Suite 5,
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6005
COL Huck (MCVS-SCVL), VETCOM Food Analysis & Diagnostic Laboratory, 2472 Schofield
Road, Building 2632, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6232
COL Severin, HQDA DODVSA-ZA, 5109 Leesburg Pike, Suite 621, Falls Church, VA
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COL Walters, 106th Medical Detachment VS, Unit 15252, APO AP 96205-0025
LtCol. Courtney, HQ AFOMA SGOP, 110 Luke Avenue, Room 405, Bolling AFB, DC
20332-7050
COL Fournier (MMLV), Defense Logistics Agency, 8725 John J. Kingman Road, Suite 4240,
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-6221
COL Proctor (DSCP-HROS), Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, 700 Robbins Avenue,
Building 6, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5092
LTC Whippo (Code 51V), Naval Supply Systems Command, 5450 Carlisle Pike, PO Box 2050,
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0791

MCVS-FA

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Food Risk Evaluation Committee (FREC), 10 February 2004

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MAJ Brglez, Veterinary Svcs Det Bahrain, PSC 451 Box Vet Svcs, FPO AE 09834-2800

CW5 Jordan (MCVS-F), U.S. Army Veterinary Command, 2050 Worth Road, Suite 5,
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6005

Mr. McNeil (MCHB-DF-F), U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine,
5158 Blackhawk Road, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5442

Mr. Odette, Navy Environmental Health Center, 620 John Paul Jones Circle Suite 1100,
Portsmouth, VA 23708-2103



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
VETERINARY SERVICE ACTIVITY
5109 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH VA 22041-3258**

DODVSA

15 March 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR Colonel Dewayne Taylor, Chairman, Food Risk Evaluation Committee,
U.S. Army Veterinary Command, 2050 Worth Road, Suite 5, Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Food Risk Evaluation Committee Meeting, 10 February 2004.

The minutes of the Food Risk Evaluation Committee meeting of 10 February 2004 are approved
as written.

Encl

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott R. Severin", is positioned above the printed name.

SCOTT R. SEVERIN
Colonel, VC
Acting Director, DOD Veterinary
Service Activity



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD, SUITE 5
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6005

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCVS-FA

11 March 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR Chief, HQDA DODVSA-ZA, 5109 Leesburg Pike, Suite 621, Falls
Church, VA 22041-3258

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Food Risk Evaluation Committee (FREC) Meeting 10 February 2004

1. We enclose the minutes of the Food Risk Evaluation Committee (FREC) meeting of 10 February 2004 for your approval and distribution.
2. Our point of contact is Mr. Robert Kilburn, DOD Approved Sources Division, DSN 471-6547.

Encl
as


DEWAYNE G. TAYLOR
Colonel, VC
Chairman, Food Risk Evaluation Committee

MINUTES OF THE FOOD RISK EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING

1. In accordance with Letter of Instruction (LOI), HQDOD (DODVSA), subject: Food Risk Evaluation Committee (FREC), the FREC met on 10 February 2004, at Building 325, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234.

a. Members Present:

COL Taylor (NVM)	HQ VETCOM	Chairman
COL Fournier	DLA	Member
COL Hoskins	AMEDD C & S	Member
COL Huck	DOD Lab	Member
COL Wolken	DeCA	Member
LTC Hildabrand	DODVSA	Member
LTC Walters	106th Med Det	Member
LTC Whippo	NAVSUP	Member
MAJ Brglez	46th Med Det	Member
CW5 Jordan	HQ VETCOM	Member
Mr. McNeil	USA CHPPM	Member
Mr. Odette	Nav Env Hlth Ctr	Member

b. Members Absent:

COL Cates	100th Med Det	Member
COL Kelsey	HQ VETCOM	Member
COL Proctor	DSCP	Member
Col Van Hook	USAF OTSG	Member
LTC Schuckebrock	AAFES	Member

c. Others Present:

COL Stedman	Brooks AFB	USAF Rep
LTC Chumley	HQ VETCOM	Observer
LTC Honadel	100th Med Det	100th Med Det Rep
Maj Gilmore	Brooks AFB	Observer
CW4 Barnes	Great Plains RVC	Subcommittee Rep
Mr. Kilburn	HQ VETCOM	Coordinator

2. Opening Remarks. COL Taylor called the meeting to order at 0800, 10 February 2004. COL Taylor introduced CW4 Barnes and explained to the committee that the Chairman has formed a subcommittee to research agenda items and CW4 Barnes had been appointed Chairman of the subcommittee as a non-voting member. COL Taylor then asked each individual to introduce themselves.

3. Old Business: None.

4. New Business.

a. *Listeria monocytogenes* swabs in food plants: COL Taylor stated that VETCOM has received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reports which were positive (*L. monocytogenes*) for environmental samples from several processing lines within a pre-cut ready-to-eat fresh fruits and vegetables plant. The FDA took no action. COL Taylor asked if this is in contradiction to the FDA's zero tolerance for *L. monocytogenes* or if an environmental swab is intended to be included as evidence the product could be contaminated with *L. monocytogenes*. COL Taylor also asked what disposition the military should make when we find positives or evidence of positive swabs on routine audits and initial audits. The committee voted to ask DODVSA (LTC Hildabrand) to query the FDA and determine their policy concerning positive *L. monocytogenes* swabs taken from food contact surfaces vs. the zero tolerance policy for the pathogen found within the product. In addition, the FREC subcommittee is tasked to develop a recommended program for disposition and notification when positive results (both environmental and product) are found. This includes government drawn and vendor drawn samples. Procedures will be developed for those Directory listed plants and those being considered for listing.

b. BSE and Avian Influenza: LTC Walters briefed the committee on current developments of BSE and Avian Influenza in the Far East. No action is required by the FREC.

c. EPW and DP Camps: Mr. McNeil briefed the committee on the new web link for TG 188 and new publication for DP camps. Also Mr. McNeil stated the National Sanitation Foundation is rewriting the standard for retail refrigeration equipment and suggested veterinary personnel could be an asset for this committee. No action is required by the FREC.

d. CW4 Barnes elaborated upon the current requirement for Military Standard 3006A concerning the definition of potable water. He explained we currently accept potable water certification from the local municipality, which normally amounts to no more than an absence of Coliforms. CW4 Barnes elaborated the need to expand the definition of "potable water" and proposed the DOD adopt the same standard now used for ice plants for all food plants. This standard stipulates that water entering a plant will originate from a source meeting the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation and that samples from within the plant must further meet standards for heavy metals (chromium, cadmium, lead, and copper). Testing would be conducted annually. In addition CW4 Barnes recommended that all plants meet the backflow certification as required by the state in which the plant is located. The committee voted to change Military Standard 3006A to include the potable water definition and requirements as described by CW4 Barnes. The FREC subcommittee will research and recommend the plants (by commodity) that will be subject to this requirement. In addition, the FREC voted to change the standard to require backflow certification as required by the state.

e. Security: COL Taylor asked the committee's opinion concerning the security responsibility in conjunction with sanitation audits and if it would be appropriate to place more security information into the sanitation audit report (SAR). LTC Hildabrand indicated that the FDA had been contacted and, at this point, no changes should be made to the way we report the security portion of the SAR. Maj Fuller briefed the committee on the Air Force's vulnerability assessment program for food vendors. No action was required by the FREC.

f. Approved Source Listing: CW4 Barnes reviewed the FDA importation inspection program explaining that the FDA inspects only 2% of all products being received in the U.S. from foreign food manufacturers. Current DOD policy allows all FDA products imported into the U.S. to be considered approved. CW4 Barnes proposed that this does not provide ample protection for military consumers. CW4 Barnes recommended that sampling protocols be established to require the Destination Laboratory Sampling Program to focus on foods imported into the U.S. The FREC voted to require the subcommittee to work with DeCA to determine how many potentially hazardous foods are included in this subject and arrange those found in order of risk. In addition, DODVSA should work with the FDA to explore the possibilities of establishing a partnership to exchange information on the results of lab testing, should we step up sampling in this area.

g. Approved source requirements for various items: CW4 Barnes submitted a list of products that he considers low-risk items and questioned the need for audits of those plants producing those items. It was mentioned that the soon-to-be-published AR 40-657 will contain authorization to greatly adjust the frequency of plants meeting certain requirements. COL Fournier proposed that no changes be made until the new 40-657 is in place and Commanders have the opportunity to implement. The committee agreed.

h. Shedd's Spread Plus Yogurt: Mr. Kilburn reviewed the current policy for listing of margarine, which is considered exempt even when a small amount of non-fat dry milk is included. He explained Shedd's Spread is now advertising their margarine product to include 25% yogurt. Research has indicated that the entire yogurt ingredient is a dry dairy product. The committee voted to exclude this product from Directory listing, but ask the lab to do a complete analysis.

i. Lab Sampling: COL Taylor proposed that a subcommittee comprised of professionally trained personnel be established to define the DOD sampling program. COL Taylor suggested he forward by e-mail the goals and objectives of the program. The FREC agreed.

5. COL Taylor adjourned the meeting at 1630, 10 February 2004.


COL DEWAYNE G. TAYLOR
Chairman


ROBERT KILBURN
Coordinator